

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| | | |
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| Applicant's or agent's file reference 1693-1PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION | see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. |
| International application No. PCT/NZ03/00175 | International filing date (day/month/year) 8 August 2003 | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 9 August 2002 |
| Applicant JONES, Murray Douglas et al | | |

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

☐ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

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|----|--|---|
| 1. | Basis of the report | <p>a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).</p> <p>b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> contained in the international application in written form.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> filed together with the international application in computer readable form.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.</p> |
| 2. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I). |
| 3. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II). |
| 4. | With regard to the title, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the text is approved as submitted by the applicant. <input type="checkbox"/> the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows: |
| 5. | With regard to the abstract, | <input type="checkbox"/> the text is approved as submitted by the applicant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority. |
| 6. | The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> as suggested by the applicant. <input type="checkbox"/> None of the figures <input type="checkbox"/> because the applicant failed to suggest a figure <input type="checkbox"/> because this figure better characterizes the invention | |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ03/00175

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A clip includes a body (10) and an opening (14) within the body and in which, in use, a part of a plant can engage. A slot (19), which is of doglegged configuration, extends between the opening (14) and an edge (17) of the body (10). The body (10) can be coupled to a means for providing support to the plant or part of the plant by a second opening (13) for which a slot (18) extends from an opposite edge (17) of the body (10).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ03/00175

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTERInt. Cl. ⁷: A01G 17/08, 9/12, F16B 2/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

AU: IPC A01G 9/12, 17/08 (1975 - 2003)

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

DWPI IPC A01G 9/-, A01G 17/-, F16B 2/- & keywords: support, trellis, post, member, frame, structure, clip, band, body, tie, tying, attach, secure, fix, slot, slit, aperture, opening, orifice, flex, pliable, resilient, plastic.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|--------------------------|
| X | WO 99/05900 A (VANDERPAN) 11 February 1999 Whole document | 1 - 3, 6 - 8, 12 - 14 |
| X | EP 356263 A (DICKINSON) 28 February 1990 Whole document | 1, 2, 6 - 8, 12 |
| X | NL 7316387 A (WEIJDEN-RIETVELD H) 2 June 1975 Whole document | 1, 2, 6 - 8, 12, 13 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C
 ☒ See patent family annex

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|---|--|
| * Special categories of cited documents: | |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | "&" document member of the same patent family |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | |

 Date of the actual completion of the international search
 15 October 2003

 Date of mailing of the international search report
 22 OCT 2003

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ03/00175

| C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X | AU 13536/83 A (W.A.DEUTSHER PTY.LTD.) 27 October 1983 Whole document | 1 - 3, 6 - 8, 12 - 14 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/NZ03/00175

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

| Patent Document Cited in Search Report | | Patent Family Member | | |
|---|----------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|
| WO | 99/05900 | AU | 88232/98 | US 6378175 |
| EP | 0356263 | AU | 40279/89 | NZ 225941 US 4971282 |
| NL | 7316387 | NONE | | |
| AU | 13536/83 | NZ | 203948 | |
| END OF ANNEX | | | | |